Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PAGE 01 BONN 05299 021652Z 43 ACTION L-02 INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEA-09 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 H-02 STR-04 DODE-00 COME-00 OPIC-03 AID-05 IGA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 SP-02 /079 W ----- 072333 PR 021643Z APR 75 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9104 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY DUBLIN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY ROME AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE USMISSION EC BRUSSELS USMISSION OECD PARIS USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 05299 E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, IS, GW SUBJECT: DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AGAINST ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL **REF: STATE 073840** 1. A CHECK WITH APPROPRIATE ECONOMIC MINISTRY OFFICIAL ESTABLISHED THAT FRG HAS NO REPEAT NO ANALOGOUS LAWS OR REGULATIONS TO THOSE CITED IN REFTEL. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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2. WITH REFERENCE TO ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL,

WHICH HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PLAY IN THE GERMAN MEDIA, IT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT ON FEB 28, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT WHETHER ALL GERMAN FIRMS BOYCOTTED BY THE ARABS WILL BE COMPELLED TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT, THE ECONOMIC MINISTRY PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY SAID: "THE COMPANIES MUST DECIDE IN THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY IN WHICHFOREIGN MARKETS THEY WANT TO BE ACTIVE. BECAUSE OF THE UNFAVORABLE EFFECTS ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS DEPLORED ANY KIND OF BOYCOTT MEASURES. IT HAS SHOWN, HOWEVER, THAT BOYCOTT MEASURES INITIATED BY ARAB STATES IN 1948 HAVE BEEN APPLIED IN A RELATIVELY FLEXIBLE FORM, WHENEVER THIS WAS IN THE INTEREST OF THESE STATES. THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO INTENTION OF COMMITTING GERMAN FIRMS BOYCOTTED BY FOREIGN STATES TO REPORT SUCH ACTION TO THE GOVERNMENT. OF COURSE, IT WILL BE LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF INDIVIDUAL FIRMS TO APPROACH THE GOVERNMENT ON THEIR OWN." HILLENBRAND

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